

Bontrager Street shoes \$99

These around-town shoes have a recess underneath to house a cleat for clip-in pedals but provide a flat sole on which to walk. This is very convenient for day trips and errands combining a bit of walking with riding. The sole is quite stiff to benefit pedalling, with the trade off that it's more rigid than is ideal for walking.

The sole recess accommodates all the 'mountain bike style' cleat and pedal systems – Shimano SPD, Crank Brothers Eggbeater and VP – but not the larger 'road bike style' cleats. Three substantial Velcro straps hold the foot securely and a microfibre inner is designed to aid breathability.

These shoes have a bit of a reputation for being narrow but I didn't sense this. The fancy, layered inner sole felt bulky at first but settled to become comfortable. I'd prefer a deeper recess because once the sole is worn, walking on the cleat is uncomfortable.



Review by **Simon Vincett**
For more info and retailers
www.bontrager.com

90% Good stiffness for pedalling and durable enough for years of day trips, errands and commutes.

Bakpocket \$18 + \$2 postage

No more sweaty back saturating your phone: pop it in a Bakpocket. This tough neoprene pouch has been treated to be water resistant and sized to take an iPhone or Blackberry, coffee money and a credit card. In fact its 16x9cm is roomy enough that you could slip a tyre patch kit in there too and even a spare tube (road bike tyre sized), but it still fits neatly in a jersey pocket.

Comes with a plastic ID card for recording your personal details and there's a port for headphone cable. They can also be custom printed with your company or club logo for orders as few as 10.

Designed in Melbourne by Glen O'Rourke, rider and triathlete.

Review by **Simon Vincett**

For more info and to buy www.bakpocket.com/au



86% Worth the money for a well executed, clever solution.

Bike-Eye mirror \$30, including postage

Bike mirrors, in theory, are a great idea. Unfortunately, my experience with them has always been disappointing. They invariably vibrate terribly, making viewing impossible, constantly need adjusting, get in the way, look silly, and are easily broken. But my opinion has now changed.

The brilliantly designed Bike-Eye, which fits securely and unobtrusively onto the down (or top) tube, is out of the way of knees, hands and glancing blows, and offers a sharp and vibration-free field of view. You are in effect looking back underneath your right leg, but that angle provides a surprisingly clear and accurate picture of what is happening behind you.

The Bike-Eye is light (80g) but well made, and its versatility of fitting means it works on most bikes, including those with drop handlebars, although large pannier bags might restrict the view.

Review by **Stephen Huntley**

For more info and how to buy www.bike-eye.com



94% A ground-breaking design that works superbly.

Frankly baselayer \$120 half-zip, long-sleeve

The proprietary merino inner and organic cotton outer of Frankly's Neobi fabric makes their garments perform better than any baselayer I've ever worn. With impressive skin comfort, surprising warmth for weight and significant odour resistance, it's the wicking ability of these garments that is truly amazing. After an intense one-hour ride, I was unaware of having perspired much at all until I removed my jacket and saw the evidence. I kept wearing the garment under my work clothes, as the manufacturer recommends, and was amazed at how quickly it dried. I was extremely comfortable all day.

I advise purchasing a size smaller than normal as over a few weeks the cotton outer layer stretched out of shape considerably. I tried washing to shrink them a little, without much success. In a baselayer, however, aesthetic considerations are secondary.

Review by **Gavin Lombard**

For more info and for stockists www.au.franklyfrankly.com



92% A new standard in wicking performance.

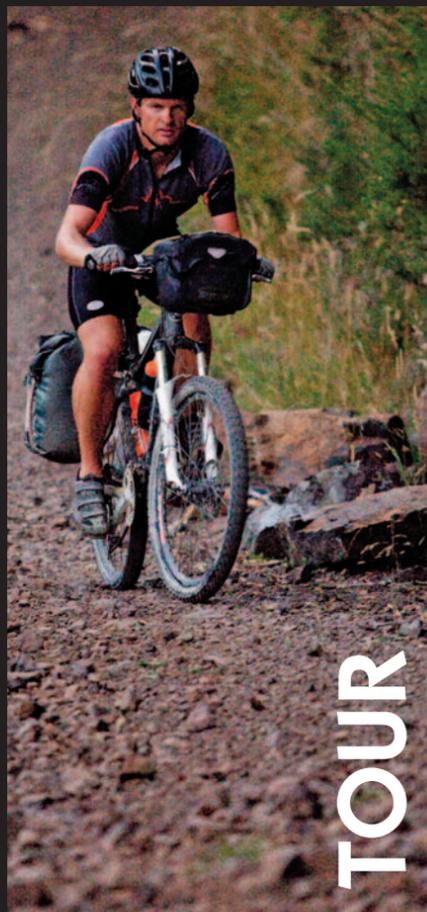
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MTB



ROAD



TOUR



URBAN



WOMEN

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